

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1661 without my signature.

This bill would provide that a person is eligible for unemployment if he or she loses his job while they are on paid family leave. When the paid family leave program was created in 2003, job protections provided for other types of leave were intentionally left out of paid family leave. This bill creates a backdoor to such protections and would disproportionately impact small businesses at a time of economic uncertainty. In addition, this bill would place additional strains on the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund at a time that fund is facing solvency issues.

For these reasons, I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger